

The Hongkong Telegraph.

No. 3030

MONDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1891.

SIX DOLLARS PER QUARTER

Banks.

THE NEW ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION, LIMITED.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL £1,000,000
PAID-UP CAPITAL £500,000

LONDON:

Head Office.....40, Threadneedle Street.
West End Office.....25, Cockspur Street.

BRANCHES IN INDIA, CHINA, JAPAN
AND THE COLONIES.

THE BANK receives MONEY ON DEPOSIT,
Buys and Sells BILLS OF EXCHANGE,
Issues Letters of CREDIT, forwards Bills for
COLLECTION, and Transacts Banking and
Agency Business generally, on terms to be had
on application.

E. W. RUTTER,
Manager. [10]

THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LIMITED.

Authorized Capital £1,000,000
Subscribed Capital £500,000

HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG.

Court of Directors—
D. Gilles, Esq., Chairman, Esq.,
Chao Kit Shan, Esq.,
C. J. Hirst, Esq.,
Chow Tung Shing, Esq.,
W. Watson, Esq.,
Kwan Hoi Chuen, Esq.,
Chief Manager,
GEO. W. F. PLAYFAIR.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN LONDON—

THOMAS CARMICHAEL, Esq.—Messrs. Dent,
Palmer & Co.
JOHN BUTTERY, Esq.—Messrs. John Buttery &
Co.
C. B. STUART-WORTLEY, Esq., M.P., for Halifax.
GEO. MUNRO, Manager.

Bankers—
London: The Alliance Bank (Ld.)
Scotland: The Commercial Bank of Scotland.

SHANGHAI.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE.
Hui Fu Yuen, Esq.,
Ma Kie Tshong, Esq.,
Tong Kwei Sang, Esq.,
J. D. THORBURN, Manager pro. tem.

THE Bank is now prepared to make advances
on goods in neutral Godowns, and on
other securities, at rates to be obtained on
application; also to receive Money on Current
Account or Fixed Deposit.

Interest for 12 months Fixed, 5 per Cent.
CURRENT ACCOUNTS
For Rates of Interest for other periods apply
to the Manager.
Hongkong, 23rd December, 1891. [1429]

Notices of Firms.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned has this Day established
himself as AUCTIONEER and GOODS
BROKER.

NOTICE.

MY Son, HENRY HUMPHREYS, was
admitted into Partnership with me on
the 1st day of July last.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS.
Hongkong, 12th December, 1891.

THE Business heretofore carried on under
the name of JOHN D. HUMPHREYS will
henceforth be conducted under the name of
JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON.
Hongkong, 12th December, 1891. [1516]

To be Let.

TO LET.

ROOMS in Padda's Street on First Floor
Suitable for offices.
Apply to
CRUICKSHANK & Co., Ltd.
Hongkong, 20th November, 1891. [1015]

THE KOWLOON LAND AND BUILDING
COMPANY, LIMITED.

TO LET.

AT KOWLOON.
A FEW HOUSES in KNOTSFORD TER-
RACE containing 3 Rooms each and
Bath-rooms. Tennis Courts. Healthy situation.
Cheap Rent.
Apply to
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT
& AGENCY CO., Ltd.
Hongkong, 6th August, 1891. [1080]

TO LET.

THE PREMISES known as Bowington
Foundry with Dwelling House (5
Rooms).
Also,
A Large GODOWN, SHEDS and YARD.
For further particulars apply to
GORDON & Co.,
Hongkong, 16th December, 1891. [1333]

TO LET.

NO. 18, HOLLYWOOD ROAD.
Apply to
DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.,
Hongkong, 4th December, 1891. [1479]

TO LET.

A LARGE WELL VENTILATED
GODOWN in Duddell Street. Rent very
moderate.
Apply to
GEO. F. LAMBERT,
Duddell Street.
Hongkong, 12th December, 1891. [1464]

Intimations.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

HAVE A CHOICE STOCK OF

WINE SPIRITS & PROVISIONS

AND

DELICACIES

SUITABLE FOR THE NEW YEAR FESTIVITIES.

LANE CRAWFORD & CO.

Hongkong, 28th December, 1891.

KELLY & WALSH, LD.
NEW YEAR'S PRESENTS.

NEW YEAR'S CARDS AND GREETINGS.

LETTS' AND SMITHS' DIARIES,

Private, Commercial and for the Pocket.

THE IMPERIAL ENGLISH and CHINESE for 1892, DATE BLOCK,

PRICE 75 CENTS.

The above are all now ready.

READY THIS WEEK,

THE IMPERIAL ENGLISH and CHINESE DIARY.

Foolscap size, Interleaved Blotting Paper, English & Chinese Dates, Completed

Customs Tariff, and a lot of local information.

Price \$1.00

KELLY & WALSH, LIMITED,

QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 18th December, 1891.

W. POWELL & CO.

ARE NOW SHOWING,
A VERY FINE SELECTION OF

OIL PAINTINGS,

CHROMOS,

MONO-CHROMOS,

ETCHINGS,

OPALIMS, &c., &c.

ALL NEW GOODS.

W. POWELL & CO.

Hongkong, 28th December, 1891.

CARMICHAEL & CO., LD.
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS—TOBACCO AND CIGAR IMPORTERS,
GENERAL STOREKEEPERS AND COMMISSION AGENTS.

CHRISTMAS DESSERT.

FINEST MUSCATEL TABLE RAISINS, FINEST JORDAN ALMONDS, TURKEY
and ELEMA FIGS, CHOCOLATE CREAMS, BONBONS and FANCY SWEETS,
CARRIAGE & BOWLER'S BUTTER SCOTCH, EVERTON TOFFEE and RUSSIAN TOFFEE,
PUDDING RAISINS, CURRANTS, CANDIED PEELS, ORANGE, LEMON, CITRON and
MIXED. Special XMAS-GIFT—Assorted Case One Dozen WINES and SPIRITS, \$10.

CARMICHAEL & CO., LTD.

18, Praya Central, Hongkong.

Hongkong, 27th December, 1891.

MOUTRIE, ROBINSON & CO.

(THE PIANO, ORGAN AND MUSIC WAREHOUSE),

PIANOS,

PIANOS,

PIANOS.

BY ALL THE LEADING MAKERS OF THE WORLD, INCLUDING—

NEW PIANOS, by

BROADWOOD,

COLLARD & COLLARD,

CRAMER,

PLEVEL,

HOPKINSON,

BRINSMEAD,

RUSSELLS,

(Transposing Pianos).

SCHIEDMAEYER,

RACHALS,

ROSENKRANZ,

NEW PIANOS.—

The "UNIQUE" MODEL,

The "BOUDOIR" Model,

GRANDS.—

BROADWOOD,

COLLARD & COLLARD,

PLEVEL,

YACHT PIANOS

(Folding Key-boards).

HOPKINSON,

CHAPPEL

2nd-HAND.

BROADWOOD (COTTAGES).

(PIANETTES).

(GRAND).

COLLARD & COLLARD (COTTAGE).

PLEVEL

STRAUSS

SCHROEDER

and several others.

PRICES RANGE FROM \$150 TO \$800.

All the above instruments can be purchased by

MONTHLY PAYMENTS.

Being by far the largest Importers of Musical Instruments in the East, MOUTRIE, ROBINSON
& Co. are enabled to offer customers every possible advantage in SELECTION and QUALITY
and at

HOME PRICES.

MONTHLY PAYMENTS.

PIANOS ON HIRE FROM \$8 PER MONTH.

Having just received (at our Hongkong and Shanghai houses) a shipment of over—
TWO TONS of Music, containing every possible style and variety, we will from this date to
the 1st December, offer a discount of 20 per cent. on all Sheet Music and Editions—PETERS,
LITOLF, and AUGENERS.

VIOLINS, BANJOS, GUITARS, MANDOLINS, ZITHERS, DULCINERS, ACCORDEONS,
CONCERTINAS, FLUTES, PICCOLOS, TAMBOURINES, STRINGS, BOWS,
BRIDGES, MUTES, PITCH-PIES, TAIL-PIECES, PEGS—
In fact, every kind of Instrument and Fittings possible.

Call and inspect our stock or obtain our Illustrated Catalogue before buying elsewhere.

MOUTRIE, ROBINSON & Co.

UNDER HONGKONG HOTEL,

HONGKONG.

(And at London, Shanghai, Kobe and Yokohama).

THE ONLY FIRM in the Far East devoting themselves entirely to the Music Trade.

Hongkong, 28th December, 1891.

Shipping.

STEAMERS.

"UNION" LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR NAGASAKI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA,

VIA INLAND SEA.

THE Steamship

"TORRINGTON,"

Captain Berwick, will be despatched as above

on or about the 31st December, instead of as

previously advertised.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DODWELL, CARILL & Co.,

Agents.

Hongkong, 28th December, 1891. [1513]

EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN STEAM-

SHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SYDNEY, MELBOURNE AND

ADELAIDE.

(Calling at PORT DARWIN and QUEENSLAND

Ports and taking through Cargo to NEW

ZEALAND, TASMANIA, &c.)

THE Steamship

"AIRLIE."

Captain Ellis, will be despatched for the above

Ports on TUESDAY, the 31st January

1892, at 4 p.m.

This well-known steamer is specially fitted for

passengers, and has large cooling Chambers,

thus ensuring a supply of Fresh Meat, Milk,

Ice, etc. throughout the voyage.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,

Agents.

Hongkong, 21st December, 1891. [1535]

SAILING VESSELS.

FOR NEW YORK.

THE 3/4 L. L. American Bark

"MARTHA DAVIS."

Pendleton, Master, will load here for the above

Port, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to

SHEWAN & Co.

Hongkong, 2nd December, 1891. [1463]

Mails.

OCCIDENTAL AND ORIENTAL STEAM-

SHIP COMPANY.

TAKING CARGO AND PASSENGERS TO

JAPAN, THE UNITED STATES,

MEXICO,

CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA, AND

EUROPE.

THE OVERLAND RAILWAYS,

AND

ATLANTIC AND OTHER CONNECTING

STEAMERS.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

Gallec Thursday 31st Dec.

Bahia Saturday 31st Jan., 1892.

Oceanic (via Honolulu), Tuesday 16th Feb.

THE Steamship

"GAELIC"

will be despatched for San Francisco, via

Yokohama, on THURSDAY, the 31st inst.,

at 1 P.M. Connection being made at Yokohama

with Steamers from Shanghai and Japan

Ports

RATES OF PASSAGE.

From Hongkong, First-class.

To San Francisco, Vancouver,

Victoria, Esquimaux, New

Westminster, Port Townsend,

Seattle, Tacoma, Portland, O.,

To Liverpool and London \$35.00

To Paris and Bremen \$45.00

To Havre and Hamburg \$35.00

Through Passage Tickets granted to Eng-

land, France, and Germany by all trans-Atlantic

lines of steamers.

RATES OF PASSAGE TO OVERLAND

CITIES. FIRST CLASS.

DESTINATION.

day

return

continuous

the

ticket

Kansas City, Mo., Omaha, Neb. 285.00

St. Louis, Mo. 292.50

St. Paul, Minn., Minneapolis, Minn. 292.50

Chicago, Ill. 292.50

Milwaukee, Wis. 292.50

Cincinnati, Ohio 302.50

Columbus, Ohio 302.50

Detroit, Mich. 302.50

Cleveland, Ohio 302.50

Toronto, Canada 302.50

Pittsburg, Penn. 302.50

Niagara Falls, N.Y., Buffalo, N.Y. 302.50

Washington, D.C., Baltimore, Md. 302.50

Montreal, Canada 302.50

Philadelphia, Penn. 302.50

New York 302.50

Boston, Mass. 302.50

Portland, Maine 302.50

Mails.

U. S. MAIL LINE.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY

THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA OVER-

LAND, RAILWAYS, AND TOUCHING AT

YOKOHAMA, AND SAN FRANCISCO.

PROPOSED SAILING FROM HONGKONG.

City of Peking Tuesday 12th Jan.

City of Rio de Janeiro Thursday 4th Feb.

City of San Francisco Friday 26th Feb.

THE U. S. Mail Steamship

"CHINA"

will be despatched for SAN FRANCISCO, via

YOKOHAMA on TUESDAY, the 12th January,

at 1 P.M., taking Passengers and Freight for

Japan, the United States, and Europe.

RATES OF PASSAGE.

From Hongkong, First-class.

To San Francisco, Vancouver,

Victoria, Esquimaux, New

Westminster, Port Townsend,

Seattle, Tacoma, Portland, O.,

To Liverpool and London \$35.00

To Paris and Bremen \$45.00

To Havre and Hamburg \$35.00

Through Passage Tickets granted to Eng-

land, France, and Germany by all trans-Atlantic

lines of steamers.

RATES OF PASSAGE TO OVERLAND

CITIES. FIRST CLASS.

DESTINATION.

day

Intimations.

DAKIN BROS. OF CHINA, LIMITED,
CHEMISTS, &c.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR PRESENTS,
DAINTY AND GOOD,

from \$1 to \$100.

CHOCOLATES in Boxes,
in Baskets,
in Bookcases,
in Caskets.

FROM 25 CENTS TO \$12.00.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

THE BEST OF THEIR KINDS.

No. 23 & 24, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

LONDON, HONGKONG AND AMOY.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.

WE invite attention to our first supplies

OF

CONFECTIONERY AND

CHRISTMAS GOODS

RECEIVED BY THE LAST MAIL.

JORDAN, ALMONDS, NOUGAT, BUT-

TER SCOTCH, ASSORTED TOFFEES,

DRAGEES, PRALINES, and a large selection

of PURE CONFECTIONERY from the leading

Manufacturers.

CADBURY'S SPECIAL CHOCOLATE

CREMES.

PINE, APRICOT, CHERRY, LIME,

GUAVA, and other FRUIT JELLIES in great

variety.

TOM SMITH'S CHRISTMAS CRACKERS.

COLOURED OPALS mounted in Flush,

representing favourite subjects.

A large assortment of ENGLISH and

JAPANESE CHRISTMAS CARDS, of hand-

some and artistic designs, suitable to all tastes,

and at moderate prices.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

Hongkong, 1st November, 1891.

DEATHS.

At 17, Boone Road, Shanghai, on the 20th

December, DAVID WILLIAMS, aged 5 years.

At 16, Nanjing Road, Shanghai, at 6 a.m. on

the 20th December, 1901, LEOPOLD PRATT, of

H. Müller & Co., a native of Saxony, aged 45

years.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, MONDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1891.

LEGAL JUGGLERY IN HONGKONG.

A PERSON named WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

—in his bodily personality dust and ashes

generations ago, but who, as long as time

lasts, will bear an imperishable record as

the living monument of worldly wisdom

in reference to every man being imbued with

a sense of justice said, almost as if he had

been addressing a Hongkong special jury

of nondescript Germans and hybrid

Jews:—

"Be just, and fear not;

Let all the ends thou aim'st at be thy country's,

Thy God's, and Thine."

This is not an article on Hongkong

Special Juries—local Special Juries are,

in your opinion, the curse of the colony,

as they are generally, as individuals,

the mere toadies and hirelings of

certain cliques and cabals who wish

to "run" things for their own advantage

irrespective of the public weal, and who

rarely fail to allow personal prejudices to

over-ride the weight of evidence, an

inherent sense of justice, and the require-

ments of the law—but only a passing

comment on a Police Court case, decided

this afternoon at the Magistracy before Mr.

A. G. Wier, and which certainly establishes

a new record. Let us briefly state the

case.

On November 10th Mr. J. F. WEBSTER

gave evidence *de bono viri* in the libel suit

Minchin v. Fraser-Smith before Chief

Justice Sir James RUSSELL. Mr. JOHN JOSEPH

FRANCIS, Q.C., appeared for the plaintiff;

Mr. FRASER-SMITH safe-guarded his own

interests. Something in Mr. WEBSTER'S

evidence didn't quite suit the views of Mr.

FRANCIS, Q.C., and that doughty legal

free-lance thought fit, during the

examination, to apply for a Bench warrant

for Mr. WEBSTER'S summary arrest on a

charge of perjury. It was undoubtedly a

clever ruse; but the Chief Justice was not to

be so easily caught, and the learned counsel

was left to his own devices and allowed to

take what steps he thought fit at his own

risk and on his own responsibility.

Mr. FRANCIS is an Irishman and a

person of considerable shrewdness,

if not a top-sawyer either as regards

legal knowledge or actual ability,

and seeing that Mr. WEBSTER'S evidence,

if not controverted or damned in some way

or other, would inevitably smash up his

client's case, he grasped the ploughshare

and dared the fiery ordeal. On an

information sworn by JOHN MINCHIN, of the

Public Works Department, on the advice

of JOHN JOSEPH FRANCIS, Q.C.—a worthy

combination it must be admitted—Mr.

WEBSTER was arrested and haled before

the Police Magistrate on the very grave

charge of perjury. The sworn information,

the joint production of the couple of

philanthropists above mentioned, was, of

course, sufficient warrant for the

Magistrate, and from the 12th November

until the 28th December the accused

was practically in duress vile—he had

been arrested and was only allowed out

on substantial bail. Every seven days

between the dates mentioned this

gentleman and his security had to attend

at the Police Court and renew the bail

bond, and in point of fact Mr. WEBSTER

was practically a person under police

surveillance. The Libel Case came on

for hearing, and the principal witness, the

one man on whose sworn testimony to a

great extent the final decision rested,

appeared as a discredited witness, a

person actually under arrest for perjury.

We cannot discuss the merits of the

Libel Case in these columns at present;

as the case is not yet ended; but

we can point out that this witness for

the defence, who had been arrested for

perjury on an affidavit filed by the

plaintiff on the advice of his chief legal

adviser, was approached by the opposing

solicitor, by name DENNIS, and attempted

to be won over, or something very like

it, in order to affect the very desirable

object of "squashing FRASER-SMITH."

That flank movement did not meet with

the success doubtless anticipated; but

there can be no doubt whatever that these

strategic MANOEUVRES did thoroughly

discredit the evidence of the one dreaded

witness for the defence. And the sequel?

Here it is. At the Police Court this

afternoon Mr. WEBSTER appeared before

the Magistrate, on remand, on a charge

of perjury. DENNIS, the chivalrous

Hongkong solicitor above referred to,

represented the prosecution—that is, he

meekly and humbly said he didn't propose

to proceed with the case, and that he

didn't intend to call any evidence. And

the accused was accordingly discharged

without a stain on his character. But

what about the characters of FRANCIS,

Q.C., DENNIS, solicitor, etc., and their

worthy coadjutor, MINCHIN? They kept

Mr. WEBSTER under the ban of arrest

and suspicion until they had gained

their object in the Libel Suit, and when

that was accomplished the only too

evidently trumped-up charge of perjury

was abandoned—they didn't wish to call

any evidence—no, thank you! And now

we await future developments.

TELEGRAMS.

RUSSIA AND COREA.

LONDON, December 28th.

It is semi-officially stated that Russia has no

idea of the conquest of Corea; but will not

tolerate similar designs by other Powers.

SEASONABLE CHRISTMAS WEATHER.

There is a severe frost in Great Britain.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Canton* left

Singapore on the 24th inst. for this port.

A REGULAR meeting of Zealand Lodge, No. 925,

will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zealand Street,

this evening, at 8 for 8.30 o'clock precisely.

Visiting brethren are cordially invited.

We are informed by the agents (Messrs. Dowell,

Carroll & Co.) that the "Shire" Line steamer

Cardinalis left Singapore for this port

yesterday, and is due on or about the 3rd prox.

A SEAMAN of the Royal Navy celebrated

Christmas by breaking his neck, through a fall

from the upper verandah of the Seamen's Club,

down east, last night. He is now in the hospital,

badly smashed.

We would direct the attention of the ladies

and gentlemen taking part in the Scotch Concert,

to a practice that will be held, as per advertisement

in another column, in the Music Room, City

Hall, to-morrow afternoon at 5.30 o'clock.

THE *Hogo News* prints the following telegram

received from Portland and dated November

19th, 1891: "American" whaleback steamer

Whitmore, value \$70,000, safely towed into

Astoria by *Zamboni*. Have made salvage claim

\$250,000.

It is anticipated that the British ship *Falls of*

Barn, sunk of the coast of Aceh, a few weeks

ago, will be successfully raised.

THE Superintendent of the P. & O. S. N. Co.

informs us that the Company's steamer *Shanghai*

left London for this port on the 21st inst.

THE returns of the number of visitors to the City

Museum for the week ended December 27th,

are:—Europeans, 103; Chinese, 1,466; total

1,569.

WE are informed by the Agent of the Messageries

Maritimes Co. that the Company's steamer

Sydney, with the next French mail, left Saigon

at 11 a.m. to-day, for this port.

AN Emergency meeting of Victoria Lodge, No.

1026, will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zealand

Street, to-morrow, at 4.30 p.m. precisely.

Visiting brethren are cordially invited.

MR. FRASER of Perth, the official who was

lately acquitted on a charge made by certain

Chinese with having accepted a bribe, has

brought an action to recover \$10,000 damages.

THE *Perseverance* has been taken off the Hong-

kong-Macao line temporarily, for general repairs.

It is possible that owing to the extensive repairs

necessary, she may be permanently removed

from the route, which is a pity as she was doing

well considering the hard times.

THE steamer *Diamond* had a rough time

on her last voyage from here to Penang. She

encountered exceptionally heavy weather, which

smashed up and carried away two of her boats,

and caused great damage to the deck-houses

and cabins. Fortunately no lives were lost.

The *Diamond* goes to dock for repairs.

MR. WISE at this morning's sitting of the Police

Court awarded five dollars to a Chinaman who

bravely jumped into the harbour and rescued a

poor despairing Chinese policeman's wife, who

wanted to commit suicide. Evidently "when

constabulary duty" is to be done, to be done,

the policeman's wife is not a happy one.

THE *Daily Courant* of the 9th inst. states that

on the preceding Monday, the tobacco estates

of the Langkat Maatschappij were put up to

auction, when Tanjong Selamat realised \$10,000,

but Serapah and Glen Berole were not disposed

of, the highest bid offered for the latter being only

\$1,500. It is said that Tanjong Selamat estate

will continue to be worked, but that the others

will be closed.

WE learn from the *Financial News* that Mr. T.

Neville Stach, of 47, St. James's, has given notice

of his intention to move the following resolution

at the next annual meeting of the Pabag

Corporation:—"That, in view of the continued

mismanagement of the affairs of the Pabag

Corporation, and considering the fact that the

chairman, Mr. E. A. Pontifex, is a director of 16

other companies, most of which

The following are the names of those from whom contributions in this way have been received:—Mr. Excellency the Administrator, Messrs. Ackroyd, Denney, Dobberck, Eduljee, Moses, Niedhardt and Pison.

Admiral Sir Noel Sullivan added to the Museum an interesting collection of butterflies from Borneo as well as two canoes and some musical instruments. The number of visitors to the Museum during the twelve months was 106,768, of whom 8,521 were not Chinese.

The following is a list of the principal contributors during the twelve months:—Admiral Sir N. Sullivan, Messrs. Ashton, Collage, Daniels, Ford, Gortin, Goulding, James, Low, A. Y. Lo, W. Lo, Norhouse, O'Keefe, Shepherd, Talbot and Wing Cheong Shing.

In May 1890 the Committee, after taking the opinion of Counsel, applied to the Colonial Government for leave to carry out the reclamation of that portion opposite to the Lot upon which the City Hall stands, and as the Government claimed that the shareholders in the City Hall had no rights to the water frontage and denied that they were interested in the reclamation, a suit was commenced in the Supreme Court in the name and with the consent of the Hongkong Rifle Association, as one of the Crown Lessees of Marine Lot No. 2, against the Attorney General, and an injunction to restrain the Government from proceeding with the reclamation was likewise applied for; the Committee regret to say that the injunction was refused by the Court, the Court holding that if those interested in the City Hall were damaged by the action of the Government, an award of damages would be sufficient compensation, and the suit at present remains in abeyance.

The balance in the hands of the Honorary Treasurer on the 30th June, 1891, was \$11,564.67 as shown by the following account:

CITY HALL ACCOUNTS SHOWING RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FROM 1ST JULY, 1890, TO 31ST JULY, 1891.

To Balance in hands of Hon. Treasurer on 30th June, 1890, as shown in last report	\$ 8,476.63
" Rent of Theatre, St. Andrew's Hall, Ball Room, &c., &c.	8,403.63
" Rent of Chamber of Commerce	600.00
" Subscriptions collected between 1st July, 1890, and 30th June, 1891	760.00
" Government Grant for 1891	3,200.00
" Interest on current account in Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation June, 1891	185.56
	\$19,625.82
By Wages, &c., for twelve months	\$ 3,348.00
" Repairs, alterations, &c.	1,831.57
" Gas	1,810.98
" Government Fire Brigade	206.35
" Museum and Office expenses, printing, building, &c.	364.05
" Insurance Premium for 1891	700.40
" Balance in hands of Hon. Treasurer on the 30th June, 1891, as per Bank Pass Book	11,564.67
	\$19,625.82

J. J. KESWICK,
Chairman.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.]

THE GREAT LIREL CASE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."

SIR,—It was proposed and has been practically decided to hold a public meeting of sympathisers with the Defendant in the recent Lirel Case in the City Hall, tomorrow afternoon, and nearly all arrangements have been made. The published correspondence on the subject speaks for itself, and certainly does not hold up to the favorable light of public opinion those who pose as protectors of public interests. I need only add that no interested clique, however influential, can stem the strong tide now flowing in all honest and honorable quarters in this colony in favor of the Editor of the *Hongkong Telegraph*, and in the City Hall in a day or two, due notice of which will be given.

Yours faithfully,
CHESNEY DUNCAN.
Hongkong, 29th December, 1891.

(Copy) No. 1.

Hongkong Hotel,
December 26th, 1891.

DEAR SIR,—I am at present unable to give you an official reply to your letter sent to-day to my private rooms. This is a public holiday and the Colonial Secretary's office is closed.

As a matter of courtesy I may, however, inform you as briefly as I presume that in Hongkong as in England there is nothing to prevent people meeting to publicly discuss any matter of public interest, always assuming the place selected is suitable and the meeting is conducted in an orderly way. Of course people are answerable for what they say at public meetings. If they discuss cases *sub judice* for instance, unless great discretion is exercised they may render themselves liable to be dealt with for contempt of Court, as was demonstrated in certain instances arising out of meetings connected with the Tichbourne Case.

I should not think His Excellency would be advised to prohibit the public meeting you mention and indeed the Government would certainly not assume before hand that speakers would abuse the liberty of speech so dear to all Englishmen.

I am,
Yours obediently,
(Signed) W. M. GOODMAN.
Chesney Duncan, Esq.

(Copy) No. 2.

Hongkong, 27th December, 1891.

SIR,—I beg to thank you for your kind reply to my letter of yesterday's date and have to state that the reason why the meeting was not held to-day is to be found in the fact that at the last moment it was ascertained that it would suit the convenience of Mr. Fraser-Smith's friends better to have the gathering postponed for a couple of days. We therefore propose holding the meeting on Tuesday, the 30th instant, at 3.30 p.m.

I have every reason to hope that the meeting will be perfectly orderly, and that no speaker will abuse the liberty of speech so dear to all Englishmen.

I am,
Yours obediently,
CHESNEY DUNCAN.
The Honorable the Acting Colonial Secretary,
Hongkong.

No. 3.

Secretary's Office, City Hall,
Hongkong, December 28th, 1891.

CHESNEY DUNCAN, Esq.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to your letter of to-day's date, asking for the use of the Theatre or the St. Andrew's Hall for a meeting for Mr. Robert Fraser-Smith's friends and sympathisers, I am directed by the Committee to inform you that they do not see their way to granting your request.

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

Seven competitors fired on Saturday. The leading scores indicate that Christmas festivities had not wrought any very detrimental effects. Two fine scores of 33 each for the 200 yards upon 'by Lieut-Col. Jerrard and Inspector Mann resulted in a win for the former, whilst the 300 yards upon was carried off by Mr. E. Robinson with 31 points. There will be a competition at 500 and 600 yards next week. The following are Saturday's scores:—

	200	300	Average
Mr. E. Robinson	33	31	32
Inspector Mann	33	31	32
Col. Jerrard	33	31	32
Lieut. Col. Jerrard	33	31	32
Lieut. Col. Jerrard	33	31	32
Lieut. Col. Jerrard	33	31	32
Lieut. Col. Jerrard	33	31	32
Lieut. Col. Jerrard	33	31	32
Lieut. Col. Jerrard	33	31	32
Lieut. Col. Jerrard	33	31	32

CANTON.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Canton, 23rd December, 1891.

The celebration of the Winter festival went on with the usual din yesterday and finished with two tragedies in the shape of large fires. The first one took place in the suburb near the N.E. corner of Shamen at 5 p.m. Four houses were burnt, one containing about 70 cases of kerosene, another 100 piculs of sugar, no lives were lost there. The other fire commenced at 9.15 p.m. and destroyed about 80 flower-beds and part of "Dutch Folly," between which island and Canton the boats were moored. The accident was caused by the usual kerosene lamp, and soon made a tremendous blaze. The loss of life was awful, amounting to over 100 people, mostly prostitutes. It was a frightful scene, the unfortunate women being actually roasted alive, surrounded, as they were, by water on all sides. Very few were rescued, as it was impossible to get near them owing to the fearful heat. There was a large quantity of powder stored on "Dutch Folly," but fortunately that was saved.

The first copy of the new Chinese paper, the *Chung Shai Yat Po*, was printed a few days ago. The print is good, better perhaps than that of the other two, but the articles are lacking in spirit and good composition. However, that will doubtless be amended, when the writers once get in full swing.

LATE TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, December 4th.

General Sir George Chesney has written to *The Times* warmly endorsing the views expressed by the writer of the letters which have been appearing in that journal under the pseudonym of "Vetula" criticising the administration of the War Office.

NEW YORK, December 4th.

This afternoon a disastrous outrage was committed here. Two migrants entered the office of a well-known financier, Mr. Russell Sage, and demanded from him a sum of one million dollars. Their demand being refused, they exploded a dynamite bomb in the office, which shattered a great part of the building. The perpetrators of the outrage and three clerks were blown to atoms, whilst Mr. Sage was severely injured.

ROME, December 4th.

Marquis di Rudini, speaking in the Chamber of Deputies to-day, declared that the temporal power of the Pope had long been dead and buried, and that the attitude of Austria with regard to the Papacy was sincerely friendly to Italy. The Premier added that if the Italian unity was threatened, Austria's troops would certainly come to the support of Italy.

PRINCE DAMRONG is staying in this city.

MELBOURNE, December 4th.

A serious financial crisis has arisen here owing to the suspension of three banks, including the Standard Bank of Australia, and of the Building Societies. It is believed, however, that the worst is now over. The Government yesterday evening rushed through all its stages in Parliament a Bill giving protection to depositors.

BERLIN, December 4th.

It is reported here that Emin Pasha on reaching the Equatorial Province was warmly welcomed by his former troops, and he is said to now have under his command nine thousand men armed with rifles.

Berlin Journal reports that the Emperor William, addressing a body of recruits recently at Potsdam, told them that the oath of allegiance they had taken meant that they gave themselves to him body and soul, and that if the socialist agitation compelled the order to be given to shoot down their relatives, even their parents, they must obey the order.

CAPTOWN, December 4th.

Chief Lobengula has ceded to the Chartered Company of British South Africa the exclusive right to make land settlements and to administer and develop his country.

LONDON, December 5th.

The proceedings in the Russell separation suit were brought to a conclusion yesterday, when the jury after an hour's consultation returned into Court with a verdict for the respondent. The decision was received with loud cheers. The petition of the Countess was dismissed with costs.

BERLIN, December 5th.

The report of the speech said to have been made by Emperor William to a body of recruits at Potsdam has not been denied, and is being much commented upon.

PARIS, December 5th.

Official advices received here concerning the rebellion in China show that Secret Societies from China proper instigated the present revolt. Altogether five hundred Christians were massacred and a number of Churches were pillaged and burned.

WASHINGTON, December 5th.

The Treasury purchased to-day 734,000 ounces of silver at 95 to 95.50.

In the current issue of the *Freightlight Review* Sir Frederick Roberts contributes an article on the Anglo-Russian relations. He admits himself to be an optimist, if optimism implies the full perception of the dangers to which India is exposed, and persistent advocacy for timely preparations being taken.

SHANGHAI, December 5th.

The British Consulate at Newchwang and Tientsin have wired to the Consul here that the rebels have been completely dispersed.

LONDON, December 6th.

The bulletins issued on Friday and Saturday respecting the condition of Prince George of Wales are markedly reserved.

Mr. Dillon addressing a meeting at Mayo yesterday, declared that if the provisions of Mr. Gladstone's Home Rule Bill were inadequate, he would blithely oppose it.

A renewed attempt was made yesterday by several thousands of Socialists to hold a meeting at Chelsea, but the police dispersed the gathering and made many arrests.

ROME, December 5th.

The son of the King of Siam who is accompanying Prince Damrong on tour through Europe, has presented His Majesty King Humbert with the Siamese Order of Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalak.

CALCUTTA, December 6th.

The Hon. Mr. J. L. Mackay, C.L.E., is appointed Chief of Calcutta for 1892.

The body of the late John Cuthbertson, Chief Engineer of the steamer *Wardha*, who had been missing some time, was found floating in a decomposed state off the Esplanade moorings.

A serious collision occurred on the North-Western Railway, 80 miles from Lahore, between the mail train and a goods train. The engines and ten carriages were smashed; forty people including two railway servants, were killed; one hundred and fifty were injured, some seriously. A special relief train was despatched to bring the wounded to Lahore and repair the line.

Captain Youngblood, of Pampur fame, sailed for England by yesterday's mail.

December 7th.

The numbers attending the Viceroy's levee are 113 private entries; 681 public entries; 165 new presentations; 206 native gentlemen. A Drawing Room will be held on the 10th inst. Lord Dufferin's statue will be unveiled tomorrow evening.

BOMBAY, December 7th.

A tremendously enthusiastic meeting was held in Exeter Hall, London, on Friday night. It was unanimous for the immediate abolition of the Opium traffic and that no new taxation be laid upon India.

LONDON, December 7th.

A renewed attempt was made yesterday by several thousands of Socialists to hold a meeting at Chelsea, but the police dispersed the gathering and made many arrests.

Great gratification is expressed by the whole of the Press at the betrothal of the Duke of Clarence and Avondale to an English Princess, and as being a love match.

The new Commercial Treaties entered into by the Central European States provide for the reduction of duties on Indian cereals.

The Committee of the Chicago exhibition are inviting prominent Anglo-Indian officials to form the Indian Committee of exhibition.

Lord Cross speaking at Hatfield, said that justice was the great keystone of British policy in India. He declared that further aggrandisement was not wished for and that the Government desired to maintain the closest friendship with Native States. Regarding the Amero-Afghanistan, it was only desired that he should rule his subjects properly and remain a friend to the English. Lord Cross expressed a hope that no pressure would be exercised affecting the independence of Persia, and he also hoped the French would not encroach on Siam.

ROME, December 7th.

Prince Damrong starts for Bombay this week, and will make a prolonged tour in India for the purpose of studying the Indian Educational system.

LONDON, December 11th.

Sir William Drummond Jervois has been appointed a governor of the Imperial Institute, to represent the Straits.

December 15th.

A financial panic exists at Rio de Janeiro. The banks are guarded, and it is expected that martial law will be proclaimed.

December 18th.

The *New York Herald* announces that a riot has taken place at Saint Vincent (West Indies) in consequence of the "popular opposition to the reduction made in the number of the Appeal Judges; the crowd stoned the Governor and made an attack on his residence; the rioters were dispersed by sailors landed from H.M. sloop *Buad*.

NINGPO.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

NINGPO, 18th December, 1891.

Another fire occurred here early yesterday morning, near the New Bridge, but fortunately it was not a very extensive outbreak, only two houses being burnt. It was put out without much difficulty by the local fire-brigade.

The *Clio*, with coals from Nagasaki, is in port; another coal steamer is expected to-day, and the *Vladimir* in a few days.

The daily steamers in port were dressed yesterday in honour of the marriage of Mr. H. E. Wadman to Miss McIntosh. Our little church at the end of the Bund was quite gay during the afternoon; the decorations, consisting of festoons of evergreens and baskets of flowers placed here and there about the building, were remarkably pretty, and set off the little edifice to great advantage. The marriage service was conducted by the Rev. Messrs. Hoare and Moule, and attracted a much larger congregation than ever assembled there on Sundays. —*Shanghai Mercury*.

THE CHEAPEST FREETRADE ON EARTH.

The Freetrade system is admittedly a system of Free Competition. So far, in reality, there is no Freetrade anywhere. It is the system of the free civilized land, but it is the boast of England and its servile imitator, New South Wales, that they approach as near to it as circumstances will admit. They are both in an embryonic state, so far as their fiscal arrangements are concerned, but in the latter country, at all events, the fanatics of political economy see, or profess to see, a financial millennium ahead—a halcyon period when the products of all countries will be admitted free of duty to Australian ports, and all the world will compete with this nation on equal terms. Then the wine industries must go, and the vines be rooted up unless the New South Wales vigneron will be content to toll as cheaply as the labourers of Spain, Portugal, Italy, and Brazil, for the consumer always buys the cheapest article, and cheapness of production depends almost entirely upon cheapness of labour. Then tobacco cultivation will be suspended, and the hitherto protected dairy industry will die and be buried, and all the other trades at present supported by tariffs levied in an alleged Freetrade land must either work on a cheaper basis than their competitors—or else close up. The one absolutely reliable fact about the Freetrade system is that the cheapest producer must come uppermost and the rest must go to the wall. It is this cheapness which is the stock argument of all Freetraders. The farmer is always told of a golden age when he will get cheap machinery from Europe, and then turn the local implement-maker; and the implement-maker is told of a glorious time approaching when he will get at a discount of cheap foreign grain from India, and thus win out the farmer. The tailor hears that the local bootmaker is his enemy, because his boots are dearer than the imported article, and the bootmaker is warned of the evils of the other man because his products are more costly than the shoddy of Manchester. To every separate individual the tale is told of how he can get cheap, slave-made goods from abroad, and thereby avoid the extortions of—and thus practically abolish—some other local individual, and as the other individual has to make his profit in like manner by abolishing him, Freetrade is applied to Australia—is practically the doctrine of universal abolition. For only the cheapest man can survive under the *regime* of the Freetrade prophet, and as the Australian is about the most expensive worker on earth, he must go, no matter who stays.

The Australian is about the most expensive labourer on earth—the Chinaman is probably the most inexpensive. The two men occupy the extreme ends of the industrial scale. So far, the struggle between the *Mogul* and the

Freetrader of New South Wales has not even commenced, for the former has been busily employed wiping out competitors nearer home. The cheap Englishman gained a hold upon his country forty years ago, in the days when the son of Confucius knew practically nothing of commerce, manufactures, or arts, and the Chinaman had to extinguish the lamp of his own land before he could compete to much advantage in more distant regions. At present the work is proceeding grimly. The Buddhist has learned only the rudiments of industrial science, but already, by virtue of the great Freetrade axiom by which the dearest is taken and the cheapest is left, the Briton is going fast. The model English mercantile man in Shanghai—the one who knows three or four languages and is competent to take complete charge of a large trading business—demands some £600 per annum; the Chinese merchant has an equally capable and equally intelligent manager, who receives £30 a year, his rice, and the privilege of a shake-down in the warehouse. The Chinese clerk and storeman receives food, clothes, and the use of a hard bunk, but wages, in his case, are altogether omitted. The wealthy Chinese merchant—the boss of the establishment—lives anyhow, after the fashion of a pig. "This process is going on all over China," writes an American trader who once did an immense business in Shanghai. "While the men employed and taught the Chinese and the Chinese taught them, we could no more compete with them than we could overcome death and fate." The British Freetrader in the Mongolian ports is just beginning to realise the meaning of his own doctrine of Free Competition, and the result is about the most surprising thing that ever happened to him.

The real merits of the Asiatic whom—in the alleged Freetrade millennium—the people of New South Wales must undersell if they wish to save their industries from utter extinction, are just beginning to be understood. He is a strange, untiring individual, who seldom rests, and hardly ever sleeps, and to whom recreation is an unknown quantity. In the Chinese laundries of New York and San Francisco work is never suspended. Night and day the Mongol pursues his ceaseless toil of "washee-washee-wash." For twenty hours per diem the same tireless heathen labours at the tub, and for the remaining four he sleeps among the soiled linen, so that he may save the rent of sleeping accommodations and the wear and tear of bedding. In the underground haunts of Chicago, he turns his legs into human intestines, and there night and day the discarded wretches make cheap cigars which are afterwards belted as Havannas and Manillas, and sold in all parts of the world—in the fashionable clubs and hotels of Sydney among the rest. There is much solid economy about the men who will make their dying relative toil for sixteen hours or more per day, in exchange for rice and the shelter of a subterranean cavern, and the New South Wales citizen must learn to chain up his consumptive friends and his crippled relations in a cell, and turn them into similar sources of revenue, if he hopes to compete on a Freetrade basis. For there are no outward evidences to show that there have been dead bodies among the choice Havannas, and that a noisome corpse got mixed somehow with the fragrant Manillas; and anyhow the question is one of cheapness; not of corpses, and on a solid Freetrade system the manufacturer who runs a stuff of unpaid lepers in a dungeon can easily keep ahead.

In fifty years, at the present rate of progress, China can manufacture for the whole world. There is nothing extravagant in this assertion. With modern machinery—to say nothing of the machinery that will exist in another half-century—a nation which now numbers say, 350,000,000, and which is willing to work for 16 hours per diem, can manufacture everything which can possibly be wanted by the world's population, and much more besides. Therefore, wherever the Freetrade system prevails, the Chinaman, as the cheapest worker on earth, can wipe out and utterly extinguish every competitor, and leave whole nations unemployed. What he will be as a manufacturer in the future can be guessed by what he is as an agriculturist, in the present. There is no such patient and laborious toiler on the surface of the globe.

In China the owner of land who should not cultivate it would be deprived of it. Fertilisers undreamed of in Europe are used; there and the nostrils of European or American are assailed with all sorts of odours at every turn in city and country. All odours are persistently hoarded and used. Every stalk of rice is planted as seed, and replanted in water by human hands, and to add one handful to a crop would not be thought unworthy of effort. Rain water is everywhere stored in ponds or in water-holes for irrigation, and in all such ways are grown the rice, the tea, the human hands do all the work; human backs bear most of the land burdens; human animals are the beasts that drag most of the loads, where they cannot be transported on canal or river. Horses, cows, and sheep are crowded out; they would cost more than they would produce. Why should a horse or an ass be called to bear a burden when there are poor human beasts to be had, in number sufficient to build the pyramids or to drag mountains from their bases, if the poorest of wages to recompense such a task were forthcoming? There are practically no plantations in the most thickly populated parts of China. There is no room for them, and they are completely extirpated in a land where agriculture is so minute that the roots of plants are examined to expel or to kill any insect or grub that would dare to dispute a living with the hungry lord of creation. Seeds are steeped in liquid manure to force them to rapid and luxuriant growth. Fertilisers are applied directly to the roots of plants, and not placed on the surface of the land, as is the case in the latter process in European and waste. Man is the only weed tolerated in China, and he seems everywhere. A population of 800 to the square mile is not uncommon in the best agricultural districts there.

When the biography of some individual, who has built up a fortune by his own unaided efforts, is written as a bright and shining example for the coming generations, the story of his rise is almost always the same. He got ahead of his fellow-men at the outset by abject economy—by living in squalor and discomfort. By incessant toil, and by shunning almost everything which makes life pleasant. But all these things are comparative terms; he was simply more toilsome, more economical, and more squalid than the rest of his kind, and if they had unanimously discovered and resorted to a still lower depth of meanness and economy, then he must have descended to a lower level even than they—unless hevelled and died a pauper, and a failure. The millionaire who made his first rise by wearing old clothes would have been left behind in the scramble for wealth by a race of competitors as abject as himself who wore no clothes at all; the individual who earned the first beginnings of his capital by selling old horse-shoes picked up on the highway and hoarding up the proceeds, would have been regarded as an extravagant spendthrift in a community where his fellows all devoted themselves to scraping up fertilizer from the gutters, and turning it into cash; and he would have gone the way of spendthrifts in general and been a sparkling example to all posterity. The Chinaman is the model economist of the earth, and the only person who has not yet given up the idea that he is surrounded by 350,000,000 human beings as abjectly econo-

Animations.

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Hongkong, 28th December, 1891.

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mical as himself. The successful economist is a person who trades on the extravagance of others, and in all China there is no extravagant individual or class to trade upon. But if the Mongol comes fairly into competition with any white nation, as he only can do under Freetrade principles, then he will inevitably suck the life-blood of his rivals. For as the most grasping of Hebrew money-lenders is to the most lavish member of the "juggins" order, so is the educated Chinaman to the Hebrew money-lender himself. It is a problem of simple proportion, and the answer is easy.

The race that works most incessantly, that does without most "necessaries," and that hangs on hardest to the proceeds, must ultimately come uppermost on a Freetrade basis, and the man from the shores of the Yellow Sea fills the bill in all three instances. He can dispense with light, air, rest, and recreation, and almost with clothes as well. He can sleep standing, or doubled up in a cask, or crammed into a packing-case with his naked feet propped against a nail. He can travel in a field junk, piled up in a heap like dead meat. In California he is ousting the white farmer and fruit-grower by the simple process of paying from two to ten times as much for the land as they can afford to offer, and even then, he realises larger profits than the Arayan ever did. He is absorbing the fruit-preserving industry by the same effective methods, and the trail of the leper is over the thinned peach and plum and other luxuries which the American mail-steamer lands so abundantly, on these shores. He is starting innumerable manufactures in his own land, and already many of his products are sold in New South Wales disguised under English names. "As an industrial supplier and trade absorber no nation of the earth can equal him." China has done more in a quarter of a century to annex the commerce and industries of the world than any other land has accomplished in a hundred years. And so long as her products come in free it matters nothing whether the Chinaman himself is excluded or not; the results are the same whether the Mongol undersells his competitors by goods manufactured on the spot, or by goods manufactured in his own Flowery Land, and then exported. He can only be dealt with by two alternatives; either he must be shut out by protective tariffs, or he must be competed with on even terms, which means that his rival must become as cheap, as squalid, as laborious, and as miserably generous as himself. The Chinaman is an argument in favour of Protection that cannot be overcome, even if all the paper on earth is covered with Freetrade logic, and all the shelves of all the libraries in the globe groan under the burden of tomes of Cobden's philosophy. —*Sydney Bulletin*.

HONGKONG TEMPERATURE.

(From Messrs. Geo. Falconer & Co.'s Register.)

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